



ASSOCIATION OF  
COMMUNITY AND MULTIBED  
ACUPUNCTURE CLINICS

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## 2018 ACMAC Conference

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It's that time of year again – after last year's amazing get together which really was the best yet, we're really excited to announce the line-up for this year's ACMAC conference.

The conference is a chance to learn, network, share and be inspired about community acupuncture. There will be speakers from across the world of acupuncture and multibed, meditation and qi gong, open space workshops and a great raffle PLUS amazing evening food and lots of silly dancing in the evening.

The theme for 2018 is '**MAKING IT HAPPEN**' and we will be hosting a range of speakers who have taken acupuncture out to the people, those who have overcome obstacles to make acupuncture affordable, accessible and in the places people need it.

Tickets are now on sale – and the big news this year is that all ACMAC members will be given one weekend ticket to the conference absolutely FREE!

Our organisation is all about community and we want to bring together the people out there that are 'making it happen'. And more than anything we want to say a big thank you for your support over the years - THANK YOU!

So book your train ticket and accommodation and get on down to Brighton on the 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> November.

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### Speakers - Saturday 17th November 2018



#### ***Graeme McCracken: making it happen with lottery funding***

Source Point Community Acupuncture is a community acupuncture clinic in the heart of rural Devon. It was originally set up by Graeme McCracken and Tom Hirons and has at all times been revolutionary in its outlook about making acupuncture accessible to



#### ***Carolyn Rubens: making it happen in the NHS***

Carolyn Rubens is a GP who uses medical acupuncture in conjunction with a practical yet holistic approach to her work. She has recently set up her own acupuncture clinic, the Community Based Acupuncture Service (CBAS), at the Macmillan Horizon Centre in Brighton which is funded by the Sussex Cancer Fund.

patients whilst simultaneously ensuring practitioners are paid fairly for the work they do.

In 2017 they were granted an award from The Big Lottery Fun to offer completely FREE courses of acupuncture treatment for people suffering from chronic pain AND on a low income.

Graeme will be talking to conference about how they accessed this funding and the lessons learnt about this model of working so that you can replicate it in your area. He will also be talking about business development, and developing your practice. [Find out more here](#)

There are big changes occurring at the BAaC, with the membership unsure about the recent focus on making ourselves acceptable and attractive to medics so that we can access funding and/or work within the NHS. This work and money always seems elusive for us traditional acupuncturists and in reality one needs to be already established within the NHS hierarchy to practice acupuncture. Dr Rubens will be talking to conference about her experience of setting up an acupuncture service from within the NHS and how ACMAC members might do the same.

[Find out more here](#)



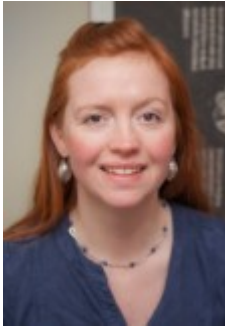
### **Sheira Chan – Making it happen for the survivors of Grenfell**

Sheira was one of two acupuncturists who rallied together after the Grenfell Tower tragedy to set up front line “Emergency Acupuncture” at various London locations. Since then, over 50 volunteer acupuncturists have joined the cause to treat the community for post-traumatic stress. Sheira will be talking to conference about how she and her colleagues made that happen.

Sheira believes in the power of the community and truly feels that in the changing landscape we are currently living, the ability to care and support the communities we are a part of is what will help in times of crisis and disasters. And our roles as acupuncturists mean we are uniquely placed and have a greater responsibility to lead by example using our skills and knowledge to bridge those gaps that exist in these communities. Genuine curiosity about the people who live around us is what bridges gaps and

builds stronger bonds despite our differences. And she truly believes this is what enabled the project for Grenfell Community to be a success; a willingness to listen, to ask, to be patient without pushing your own agenda or having expectations.

We will be raising money from our raffle for the Grenfell Tower Project which is now being led by World Medicine.



### **Hannah Reade – how acupuncturists are making it happen in Japan**

Hannah is the founder of Community Acupuncture Lancaster and is also an ACMAC Board member. She will be at conference to present stories from her trip round acupuncture clinics in Tokyo, Osaka and Kyoto; looking at acupuncture techniques, business models and the culture around multibed clinics.

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## **Speakers - Sunday 18th November 2018**

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### **Paul Blacker - making it happen with some amazing practical skills**

Paul will be running an extended workshop on the art of palpation - giving you many opportunities to watch him at work, try out lots of new skills and techniques and ask loads of questions. Paul's practical skills sessions are always a huge hit at conference and this year will be no different.



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## **What else is happening on the weekend...**



**Open Space** - We will host an 'Open Space' session to offer you advice on all sorts of topics and facilitate conversation between practitioners to enable you to discover new ways of thinking and working. Our multibed experts will be available to share their wisdom and experience.

**Gong meditation** - It's not easy to explain what it feels like to take part in a gong meditation. It is described as a form of sound therapy where the gong is played in a therapeutic way to bring about healing. It is transformative, intensely relaxing and feels like you have travelled to another world entirely! This is always a real highlight of our conferences and we're delighted to be offering this experience again this year.

**Party** – Never a night to be missed we will this year be boogying on down to some wild tunes care of DJ Deadman, eating delicious food and partaking in a few white wine spritzers... Move your qi like you never have before and don't forget to bring friends and partners along too.

**Qi Gong** – After a wild night on the dance floor there is nothing more restorative than a Sunday morning Qi Gong session with Peter Deadman. Peter has been working with the Asian tradition of medicine for over 40 years. He is the co-founder of Infinity Foods and the Brighton Natural Health Centre, studied acupuncture and Chinese herbal medicine in the UK and China and was a practitioner for three decades. He has written numerous articles and a major textbook of the acupuncture points and has taught Chinese medicine to many thousands of students in numerous countries throughout the world. He has practised qigong and/or the internal martial arts for the last twenty-three years, studying with a wide variety of teachers, and has been teaching taichi qigong for the last five years. Find out more [HERE](#).

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## TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE!

We are delighted to announce that you can now buy your tickets for this year's conference. AND there are massive savings to be had if you book early.

Book your early bird ticket before 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018 and get a full weekend ticket, including party for just £60 (members/students) or £80 (non-members).

This is an offer not to be missed - a whole weekend of events for the price of just one day!

Or, if you want to become an ACMAC member and get your weekend ticket for FREE then [send us an email](#), also by 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018.

Regular price (after 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018)

- Saturday only - £60 (members/students) and £80 (non-members)
- Sunday only - £30 (members/students) and £40 (non-members)
- Party - £10 for everyone
- Weekend ticket (including party) - £90 (members/students) and £120 (non-members)

To book visit [HERE](#).



Own your own piece of ACMAC merchandise with one of these limited edition t-shirts. Pre-order yours for £10 to collect at the conference or we can send one to you for an additional £3. Please place your orders by [EMAIL](#) by Friday 19th October with your sizing (XS/S/M/L/XL) and style (Male/Female).

## Can't wait until November to find out how to successfully set up a multibed clinic?

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Then why not sign up to our popular online training event with Charlie Whitestone - founder and board member of ACMAC. Charlie Whitestone founded ACMAC in 2007. She has worked in various multibeds over the years, has taken a keen and geeky interest in the many different forms they can take and is passionate about seeing affordable acupuncture spread throughout all our communities.

This online course will give you the basic tools and information you need to start up your own multibed clinic. We will cover issues such as: what's best - working in a team or working alone, finding a good venue, marketing your clinic, how to structure your clinic sessions, ethics of multibed practice and the importance of informed consent, and much more. The group will be kept small (max 5 attendees) and Charlie will tailor the session to the needs of each attendee.

Book early to avoid missing out!

**Date:** Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2018

**Time:** 7.00pm - 9.00pm

**Venue:** Your home computer via Skype.

**Cost:** ACMAC members £25; non-members £35.

Book [HERE](#).

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